

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

VOL. XXXIX. No. 6327.

號一卅年三十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1883.

日一初月十一年未癸

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E. C. GEORGE STREET & CO., 30, Cornwall, GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.O. BATES, HENRY & CO., 37, Walbrook, E.C. SAMUEL DEACON & CO., 150 & 164, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—GALLIEN & PAISSE, 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 21, Park Row.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GORON, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BEAL & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & CO., Square, Singapore. C. HENNZER & CO., Manila.

CHINA.—MAZOO, MESSRS. A. DE MELEO & CO., Shanghai, QUINON & CO., Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLS & CO., Foochow, HEDGES & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital, \$5,000,000. Instalment received on New Shares, \$2,500,000. Instalment of Premium to be received on New Shares, \$68,336.43

COURT OF DIRECTORS. Chairman—Wm. REILLY, Esq. Deputy Chairman—W. S. YOUNG, Esq. H. L. DALMUYLLE, A. P. MOEVEN, Esq. E. A. MOYER, Esq. W. H. FORBES, Esq. F. D. SAMSON, Esq. A. GUTZOW, Esq. M. E. SASOON, Esq. Hon. F. B. JOHNSON.

CHIEF MANAGER, Hongkong, Thomas JACKSON, Esq. MANAGER, Shanghai, EWEN CAMERON, Esq. LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG. INTEREST ALLOWED, ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits— For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum. " 6 " 4 per cent. " " 12 " 5 per cent. " LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED. Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan. T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation, No. 1, Queen's Road East, Hongkong, August 25, 1883.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE. FROM this date Messrs. RUSSELL & CO. will conduct our Business at this port and all Communications should be addressed to them. Messrs. RUSSELL & CO. will also Act as Agents at this port for our line of Steamers. GEO. R. STEVENS & CO. Hongkong, August 1, 1883.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE. THE Undersigned has resumed Charge as SECRETARY of the Society. By Order of the Board. M. J. EDE, Secretary. Hongkong, October 29, 1883.

Intimations. I T frequently occurs that from damp or otherwise Goof Tea is spoilt from the fact of being musty, mouldy, unpalatable to Foreigners' taste and unfit for their use.

This refuse Tea the Lady Superiores of the Italian Convent now comes forward and begs the LADIES and GENTLEMEN to let her have for her numerous Chinese pupils, for whom the sole beverage of luxury is Tea. Hongkong, September 10, 1883.

NEWS FOR HOME. The Overland China Mail. (The oldest Overland Paper in China.) Published at the "CHINA MAIL" OFFICE IN TIME FOR THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Containing from 72 to 84 columns of closely printed matter.

THIS Mail Summary is compiled from the Daily China Mail, is published twice a month on the morning of the English Mail's departure, and is a record of each fortnight's current history of events in China and Japan, contributed in original reports and collated from the journals published at the various ports in those Countries.

It contains Shipping news from Shanghai, Hongkong, Canton, &c., and a complete Commercial Summary.

Subscription, 50 cents per Copy (postage paid 12 cents), \$12 per annum (postage paid \$12.30).

Orders should be sent to GEO. MURRAY BART, China Mail Office, 3, Wyndham Street, not later than noon of the day the English Mail Steamer leaves.

Terms of Advertising same as in Daily China Mail.

Intimations.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

SHAREHOLDERS are reminded that the SECOND CALL of \$16.66 on the SHARES of the NEW ISSUE is payable on the 31st instant.

Interest at the rate of 0 % per annum will be charged on all over-due calls.

By Order, A. S. GARFITT, Acting Secretary. Hongkong, October 25, 1883. no1

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

ADJUSTMENT OF BONUSES FOR THE YEAR 1882.

SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company are requested to furnish the Undersigned with a List of their Contributions for the year ending 31st December last, in Order that the DISTRIBUTION of the PROFITS Reserved for Contributors may be arranged. Returns not rendered prior to the Thirty-first day of October next, will be adjusted by the Company, and no Claims or Alterations will be subsequently admitted.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Managers. Hongkong, August 16, 1883. no1

BRITISH AND FOREIGN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

RATES TO LONDON. P. & O. M. M. O. S. S. AND GLEN. SUBJECT @ 5 % DIS. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 5510. 5511. 5512. 5513. 5514. 5515. 5516. 5517. 5518. 5519. 5520. 5521. 5522. 5523. 5524. 5525. 5526. 5527. 5528. 5529. 5530. 5531. 5532. 5533. 5534. 5535. 5536. 5537. 5538. 5539. 5540. 5541. 5542. 5543. 5544. 5545. 5546. 5547. 5548. 5549. 5550. 5551. 5552. 5553. 5554. 5555. 5556. 5557. 5558. 5559. 55510. 55511. 55512. 55513. 55514. 55515. 55516. 55517. 55518. 55519. 55520. 55521. 55522. 55523. 55524. 55525. 55526. 55527. 55528. 55529. 55530. 55531. 55532. 55533. 55534. 55535. 55536. 55537. 55538. 55539. 55540. 55541. 55542. 55543. 55544. 55545. 55546. 55547. 55548. 55549. 55550. 55551. 55552. 55553. 55554. 55555. 55556. 55557. 55558. 55559. 555510. 555511. 555512. 555513. 555514. 555515. 555516. 555517. 555518. 555519. 555520. 555521. 555522. 555523. 555524. 555525. 555526. 555527. 555528. 555529. 555530. 555531. 555532. 555533. 555534. 555535. 555536. 555537. 555538. 555539. 555540. 555541. 555542. 555543. 555544. 555545. 555546. 555547. 555548. 555549. 555550. 555551. 555552. 555553. 555554. 555555. 555556. 555557. 555558. 555559. 5555510. 5555511. 5555512. 5555513. 5555514. 5555515. 5555516. 5555517. 5555518. 5555519. 5555520. 5555521. 5555522. 5555523. 5555524. 5555525. 5555526. 5555527. 5555528. 5555529. 5555530. 5555531. 5555532. 5555533. 5555534. 5555535. 5555536. 5555537. 5555538. 5555539. 5555540. 5555541. 5555542. 5555543. 5555544. 5555545. 5555546. 5555547. 5555548. 5555549. 55555410. 55555411. 55555412. 55555413. 55555414. 55555415. 55555416. 55555417. 55555418. 55555419. 55555420. 55555421. 55555422. 55555423. 55555424. 55555425. 55555426. 55555427. 55555428. 55555429. 55555430. 55555431. 55555432. 55555433. 55555434. 55555435. 55555436. 55555437. 55555438. 55555439. 55555440. 55555441. 55555442. 55555443. 55555444. 55555445. 55555446. 55555447. 55555448. 55555449. 55555450. 55555451. 55555452. 55555453. 55555454. 55555455. 55555456. 55555457. 55555458. 55555459. 55555460. 55555461. 55555462. 55555463. 55

For Sale.

MacEWEN, FRICKEL & Co.
No. 53, Queen's Road East,
(Opposite the COMMISARIAT),
ARE NOW LANDING
FROM AMERICA.
CALIFORNIA
RACKER
COMPANY'S BISCUITS in 5 lb
tins, and loose.
Soda BISCUITS.
Assorted BISCUITS.

Small HOMINY.
Cracked WHEAT.

OATMEAL.

CORNMEAL.

White BEANS.

TOPCAN BUTTER.

Eastern and Californian CHEESE.

CODFISH in Tins.

Prime HAMS and BACON.

Eagle Brand Condensed MILK.

Fancy BEEF in 25 lb cans.

Best Ideal SALMON in 5 lb cans.

Cutting's Dessert FRUITS in 24 lb cans.

Assorted Canned VEGETABLES.

Potted SAUSAGE and Sausage

MEAT.

Stuffed PEPPERS.

Assorted SOUPS.

Richardson & Robbin's Celebrated Potted

MEATS.

Richardson & Robbin's Curried OYSTERS.

Clam CHOWDER.

Fresh OREGON SALMON.

Fried APPLES.

TOMATOES.

SUCOTASH.

BRAINS.

Made SYRUP.

Golden SYRUP.

LOBSTERS.

OYSTERS.

HONEY.

Corn STARCH.

Ground CORN.

FAIRBANKS' SCALES.

400 lb. Capacity.

600 lb. "

900 lb. "

1,200 lb. "

CORN BROOMS.

OFFICE HIGH CHAIRS.

AXES and HATCHETS.

AGATE IRON WARE.

WAFFLE IRONS.

SMOOTHING IRONS.

PAINTS and OILS.

TALLOWED TAR.

VARNISHES.

DEVOE'S NONPARIEL
BRILLIANT
KEROSEINE OIL,
150° test.

Ex late Arrivals from

ENGLAND.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF
S T O R E S,
including:

BREAKFAST TONGUES.

CAVIAR.

ASPARAGUS.

SOUPS, &c.

TEYNONCEAU'S DESSERT FRUITS.

ALMONDS and RAISINS.

PICNIC TONGUES.

COCOATINA.

VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA.

LIEBIG'S & EPP'S COCOA.

FRENCH PLUMS.

PATE DE FOIE GRAS.

MINGEAT.

SAUSAGES.

BRAINS.

DANISH BUTTER.

SPARTAN

COOKING STOVES.

ENGLISH CUTLERY.

ELECTRO-PLATE.

CROCKERY & GLASS WARE.

CLARETS.

CHATEAU MARGAUX.

CHATEAU LA TOUR, pints & quarts.

12oz. GRAVES.

BREAKFAST CLARET, "

"

SHERRIES & PORT.

SACCOME'S MANZANILLA & AMON-

TILLADO.

SACCOME'S OLD INVALID PORT

(1848).

HUNTS POET.

BRANDY, WHISKY, LIQUEURS, &c.

1 and 3-star HENNESSY'S BRANDY.

BISCUIT DUBOURG & Co.'s BRANDY.

FINEST OLD BOURBON WHISKY.

KIMAHAN'S LL WHISKY.

ROYAL GLENDEAN WHISKY.

BOOD'S OLD TOM.

E. & J. BURKE'S IRISH WHISKY.

ROSE'S LIME JUICE CORDIAL.

NOULLY PEAT & Co.'s VERMOUTH.

CRABBIE'S GINGER BRANDY.

EASTERN CIDER.

CHARTREUSE.

MARASCHINO.

CURACAO.

ANGOSTURA, BOKER'S and ORANGE

BITTERS.

&c., &c., &c.

BAESE'S ALE, bottled by CAMERON and

SAUNDERS, pints and quarts.

GUINNESS'S STOUT, bottled by E. &

J. BURKE, pints and quarts.

DRAUGHT ALE and PORTER, by the

Gallon.

ALE and PORTER, in logheads.

SPECIALLY SELECTED

C I G A R S.

Fine New Season's CUMSHAW TEA, in

5 cent Boxes.

BREAKFAST CONGOU @ 25 cents p. lb.

MINER'S PATENT FIRE-PROOF

SAFES, CASH and PAPER

BOXES, at Manufacturer's Prices.

Hongkong, July 10, 1883.

Mails.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOIS POSTE FRANCAISE.

STEAM FOR

SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMAILIA,
PORT SAID, SYRIAN PORTS,
NAPLES, MARSEILLE, AND PORTS
OF BRAZIL, AND LA PLATA;

ALSO,

PONDICHERY, MADRAS, CALCOUATTA
AND ALL INDIAN PORTS.

NOTICE.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE
INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned, AGENTS of the above
Company, are authorized to Insure
against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1883.

NORTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, May 10, 1883.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.

(FIRE and LIFE.)

CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant
Policies against the Risk of FIRE on
Buildings or on Goods stored therein,
or Goods on board Vessels and on Hulls of
Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Terms
and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurances will be re-
ceived, and transmitted to the Directors
for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on
first class Lives up to £1000 on a Single
Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of pro-
posals or any other information, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.,
Agents, Hongkong & Canton.

Hongkong, January 4, 1883.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF
His Majesty King George The First,

A. D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed
Agents for the above Corporation are
requested to grant Insurances as follows:—

Marine Department.

Policies issued at present payable either
here, in London, or at the principal Ports of
India, China and Australia.

Fire Department.

Policies issued for long or short periods at
current rates.

Life Department.

Policies issued for sums not exceeding
£5,000 at reduced rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, July 25, 1883.

accidental & Oriental Steam-
ship Company.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS
TO JAPAN, THE UNITED
STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND
SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE,
VIA
THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,
AND
ATLANTIC & OTHER CONNECTING
STEAMERS.

THE S. S. OCEANIC will be despatched
for San Francisco, via Yokohama,
with the option of calling at Honolulu,
at SATURDAY, the 17th November, at
3 p.m.

Connection being made at Yokohama,
with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan
ports.

All Parcel Packages should be marked to
address in full; and same will be received
at the Company's Office, until 5 p.m., the
day previous to sailing.

RETURN Passages.—Passengers, who
have paid full fare, re-embarking at San
Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa)
within six months, will be allowed a discount
of 20% from Return Fare; if re-embarking
within one year, an allowance of 10% will
be made from Return Fare. Pre-Paid Return
Passage Orders, available for one year,
will be issued at a Discount of 25% from
Return Fare. These allowances do not apply
to through fares from China and Japan to
Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Over-
land, Mexican, Central and South American
Cargo, should be sent to the Company's
Office, addressed to the Collector of Cus-
toms, San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight
or Passage, apply to the Agency of the
Company, No. 501, Queen's Road Central.

F. E. FOSTER,
Agent.

Hongkong, October 27, 1883.

Not Responsible for Debts.

either the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for
any Debt contracted by the Officers or
Crew of the following Vessels, during
their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

CHARLES BAL, British ship, Capt. W. J.
Watson.—1'. & 0. S. N. Co.

C. T. HOOK, British steamer, Captain W.
Jarvis.—Thos. Howard & Co.

DIAMOND, British barque, Capt. N.
Nelson.—Rozario & Co.

with the Czar's consent, or else, the Czar would proclaim to the Bulgarians that "the Prince could no longer count on the support of the power whom they regarded as their deliverer." The Prince could only submit, and the curious spectacle is displayed of a Liberal regime worked under Russian auspices, while the ostensible figure, head of the Constitution, Prince Alexander, is supplicating aid from Austria and Germany, the opponents of Russia's Bulgarian policy.

The above is somewhat the position of affairs, and it is not easy to define the importance of the announcement in Reuter's telegram of Sunday. What does Russia mean by withdrawing her officers from Bulgaria, and what can have again induced the Prince to dismiss his Russian minister of war. He must be counting on support of a powerful nation from some direction, otherwise this petty ruler would scarcely venture to board the "Russian Bear" in the way he has done. It is known that he has the sympathies of Austria and Germany, and it is generally thought that Austria and Russia are working to extend their empires over the Bulgarian territory. The recent telegram in the American papers, giving detailed accounts of the extensive military preparations going on along the Russo-German and Russo-Austrian frontiers, certainly bear an ominous appearance in the present crisis. Nor does a Reuter's telegram, which comes in as we write, stating that the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs disclaims any hostility towards Russia, give a more peaceful aspect to affairs.

It is worthy of note says the *N.C.D. News*, that there was not a single vessel alongside the Associated Wharves yesterday, (Oct. 26th) and no vessels were telegraphed as leaving China ports or Hongkong for Shanghai.

Should the threatened war between France and China become *in fact* accomplish the Admiralty will be compelled to call upon one of the best known officers of the Chinese navy to resign his commission in the Imperial Service and return to England on the half-pay—£182 a year—of a commander's commission. This officer is Commander William Metcalfe Lang, R.N., a vice-admiral in the Chinese navy, and late in command of the *Ketel*, in our own service. Commander Lang is not likely to follow the example of Hobart Pacha, whose refusal of the Admiralty request to resign the service of the "unpleasant Turk" led to his name being struck out of the Navy List. Not such a dreadful disgrace, perhaps, when it is remembered that a similar sentence was passed on the Earl of Duncannon, one of England's great seamen, and that Sartorius and Charles Napier experienced a like fate during the days when they held command of Don Pedro's fleet.

The Marquis Ts'eng is, says the *Figaro*, earning golden opinions on all sides by the way in which he is carrying on the negotiations with France. He has always been socially popular since he first gave those "At Homes" in Portland-place, but the existence of the present crisis has further developed his very admirable qualities as a diplomatist, one of the chief of them being an exceptionally calm and stable temper. Nor is his diplomatic repose associated with that deceptively cunning which too often a characteristic of the Mongol diplomatist. He has much tact, but of Oriental slyness there seems to be no trace. It may interest my readers to know that the Marquis is so far Orientalised in his habits as to fall in readily with most of our social ways. He preserves his countryman's fondness for rice, however, and never travels without a native attendant who is competent to prepare this grain in the ways most pleasing to his master's palate. The Marquis came to Europe too late, however, to acquire any command of Western languages, and little—in fact, very little—English is his only linguistic accomplishment. Of French he knows nothing, and of Russian—if he has an attack who makes up for his master's linguistic deficiencies by talking English, French, and German with peculiar facility.

REARING to the performance of the "Chinese Imperial Band" in Shanghai, the *Mercury* says:—This Band, which arrived here some days ago from Tientsin for the purpose of giving Concerts in aid of the Yellow River Sufferers, gave their first musical entertainment at the Public Garden this afternoon. The Band is the first and only one in existence which, entirely composed of Chinese, is under the tutorage of a foreigner. The bandmen number twenty-two; their musical instructor is Mr. Bigel, a native of Alsace, and they are under the special patronage of Li Hsing-chang. This band was organized three years ago and the progress which the pupils have made since, reflects great credit on their tutor. It must have been a very difficult and tedious task to teach these men the first rudiments of music. The Chinese prefer their own simple melodies to the finest European music. They will willingly watch with great interest the performance of a European band, but then, whilst doing so, their curiosity is only roused by the strange form of our musical instruments and the fingering which pleases them to a still greater extent. European music passes by their ears and has no effect on their nature, although the abominable scratching on a Chinese fiddle brings all their vital spirits into motion. One of the greatest difficulties, which had to be overcome by teaching these men was Guido's gamut. The Chinese have two scales of notes in use; one of them the so-called "Southern" which is characterised, like the early Scotch and Irish, by the absence of the fourth and seventh; the other scale is the so-called "Northern" in which the intervals are supplied after the 2-ton fashion.

Now a word or two about the execution of the programme. The instruments used by the bandmen are all brass instruments, arranged after the French system, it having been found that reed-instruments were too difficult for their use. The programme included operatic, dance, sacred and even Chinese music, and therefore gave listeners ample opportunity to judge as to the band's effectiveness. All pieces were executed in a very creditable style and Mr. Bigel must have had more than ordinary perseverance to pay their servants well and the sine qua non of keeping a situation should be that it would be absurdly lost if any gratuity were accepted. There is ample room for reform. (To be continued.)

rendered in very good style and was loudly applauded.

Nos. 6 and 7 of the Programme were two Chinese airs. In No 6 the bandmaster played a solo on an instrument, which Chinese use mostly in their wedding or funeral ceremonies, and which resembles greatly a Scotch bagpipe. Yet, we believe, in both pieces the true Chinese melody was lost through the added confusion of harmonized accompaniment, and a Chinese musical would have recognised the melodies with great difficulty. They must have cost their bandmaster great trouble in transposing them from the original.

NOTES FROM THE METROPOLIS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

LONDON, Sept. 22.

The Fisheries Exhibition has been the theme this summer and its success, financially, has been great. Where in this broad London of Sunday. What does Russia mean by withdrawing her officers from Bulgaria, and what can have again induced the Prince to dismiss his Russian minister of war. He must be counting on support of a powerful nation from some direction, otherwise this petty ruler would scarcely venture to board the "Russian Bear" in the way he has done. It is known that he has the sympathies of Austria and Germany, and it is generally thought that Austria and Russia are working to extend their empires over the Bulgarian territory. The recent telegram in the American papers, giving detailed accounts of the extensive military preparations going on along the Russo-German and Russo-Austrian frontiers, certainly bear an ominous appearance in the present crisis. Nor does a Reuter's telegram, which comes in as we write, stating that the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs disclaims any hostility towards Russia, give a more peaceful aspect to affairs.

It is worthy of note says the *N.C.D. News*, that there was not a single vessel alongside the Associated Wharves yesterday, (Oct. 26th) and no vessels were telegraphed as leaving China ports or Hongkong for Shanghai.

Should the threatened war between France and China become *in fact* accomplish the Admiralty will be compelled to call upon one of the best known officers of the Chinese navy to resign his commission in the Imperial Service and return to England on the half-pay—£182 a year—of a commander's commission. This officer is Commander William Metcalfe Lang, R.N., a vice-admiral in the Chinese navy, and late in command of the *Ketel*, in our own service. Commander Lang is not likely to follow the example of Hobart Pacha, whose refusal of the Admiralty request to resign the service of the "unpleasant Turk" led to his name being struck out of the Navy List. Not such a dreadful disgrace, perhaps, when it is remembered that a similar sentence was passed on the Earl of Duncannon, one of England's great seamen, and that Sartorius and Charles Napier experienced a like fate during the days when they held command of Don Pedro's fleet.

The Marquis Ts'eng is, says the *Figaro*, earning golden opinions on all sides by the way in which he is carrying on the negotiations with France. He has always been socially popular since he first gave those "At Homes" in Portland-place, but the existence of the present crisis has further developed his very admirable qualities as a diplomatist, one of the chief of them being an exceptionally calm and stable temper. Nor is his diplomatic repose associated with that deceptively cunning which too often a characteristic of the Mongol diplomatist. He has much tact, but of Oriental slyness there seems to be no trace. It may interest my readers to know that the Marquis is so far Orientalised in his habits as to fall in readily with most of our social ways. He preserves his countryman's fondness for rice, however, and never travels without a native attendant who is competent to prepare this grain in the ways most pleasing to his master's palate. The Marquis came to Europe too late, however, to acquire any command of Western languages, and little—in fact, very little—English is his only linguistic accomplishment. Of French he knows nothing, and of Russian—if he has an attack who makes up for his master's linguistic deficiencies by talking English, French, and German with peculiar facility.

REARING to the performance of the "Chinese Imperial Band" in Shanghai, the *Mercury* says:—This Band, which arrived here some days ago from Tientsin for the purpose of giving Concerts in aid of the Yellow River Sufferers, gave their first musical entertainment at the Public Garden this afternoon. The Band is the first and only one in existence which, entirely composed of Chinese, is under the tutorage of a foreigner. The bandmen number twenty-two; their musical instructor is Mr. Bigel, a native of Alsace, and they are under the special patronage of Li Hsing-chang. This band was organized three years ago and the progress which the pupils have made since, reflects great credit on their tutor. It must have been a very difficult and tedious task to teach these men the first rudiments of music. The Chinese prefer their own simple melodies to the finest European music. They will willingly watch with great interest the performance of a European band, but then, whilst doing so, their curiosity is only roused by the strange form of our musical instruments and the fingering which pleases them to a still greater extent. European music passes by their ears and has no effect on their nature, although the abominable scratching on a Chinese fiddle brings all their vital spirits into motion. One of the greatest difficulties, which had to be overcome by teaching these men was Guido's gamut. The Chinese have two scales of notes in use; one of them the so-called "Southern" which is characterised, like the early Scotch and Irish, by the absence of the fourth and seventh; the other scale is the so-called "Northern" in which the intervals are supplied after the 2-ton fashion.

A friend of mine was one of a party of nine guns on the Bromhead moors in North Derbyshire. They obtained extraordinary sport; 533 brace of grouse were bagged and they could have obtained 800 brace and more if they had remained out longer.

The question of fees to hotel servants is again being discussed. The public not only have to pay the hotel keeper an ample remuneration for services rendered, but there is the tax of gratuities which does not grow smaller. The master is to us apparently in a nutshell, if only the requisite stand could be made. In no London Club worth the name is any servant permitted to receive any gratuity whatever. A club servant who accepted a tip would be instantly dismissed, and the members, who by offering the bribe, had violated the regulations of the club, would be liable to severe censure from the committee. Yet at every club, not only civility and attention, but conscientious conformance to the minutest wishes of members, are the invariable rule.

I hear the profits of good hotels are large, and the dividends paid by hotel companies are large. They should, then, be strong enough to pay their servants well and the sine qua non of keeping a situation should be that it would be absurdly lost if any gratuity were accepted. There is ample room for reform. (To be continued.)

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

The second ordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the Canton Insurance Office, Limited, was held in the office of the General Agents (Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co.) this forenoon. There were present:—The Hon. F. B. Johnson (Chairman), the Hon. P. Ryrie, Messrs H. L. Dalrymple, F. D. Sisson (Members of Consulting Committee), T. Jackson, A. P. MacEwan, B. Layton, J. A. dos Remedios, D. Rutledge, F. T. P. Foster, A. G. Morris, J. Bell, Irving, B. B. D. Sayle, Ng Awei, Ho Tung (Native Agency Representative), and E. E. Dear.

Mr Dear having read the notice calling the meeting,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, this is the second ordinary general meeting of the Canton Insurance Office since it was constituted as a limited company, and it is our duty to-day to lay before you the report of the first year's working of the re-organized office, together with a statement of accounts. That report has been in the hands of the shareholders for several days; and I can add that the Middlesex magistrates left a spot where a cigar can be smoked in the open air, with light, life, and music to cheer the heart of man. When I first emerged on a Wednesday evening late night from the interesting building and behold the myriads of coloured lights twinkling in the trees, and glimmering from the bushes, the thousands of Chinese lanterns, the magnificent electric light "sun" overheard, the lakes teeming with gondolas and canoes, and rafts blazing with coloured fires, I viewed a scene infinitely better than that provided at Czernowitz in its best days. Fortunately for Londoners this "moral Czernowitz" was opened under the name of an industrial exhibition, and the old fops, who make London the most immoral, yet dullest, city in the world, had no excuse to withhold the license. And the Company, though dashed perhaps here and there with the "free lances," was such that not even the greatest stickler could object to. The Guards' band, under Dan Godfrey, played the most perfect music and there were thousands of seats around under the lamp-laden trees. A very different provision, this, to the chairless (and therefore, chairless) Promenade Concerts, where it is necessary to keep on promenading unless you pay the tax of having liquids in the adjoining hall. Refreshments are to be got in all directions, but on a shilling night (five nights a week) your modest "bob" gives you three or four hours of the finest band in England, a comfortable chair brilliant and amusing company and no restriction as to furnishing. The gardens are splendid, and the weather this summer has been exceptionally good, giving the exhibition a fair trial. We are hopeful that this is not the last of such open air concerts. The public have stood being bottled up long enough, and there is a feeling abroad that Britons have been slaves long enough and the time of their redemption draweth nigh.

No questions were asked.

The Chairman said:—I will now propose that the report of the General Agents as submitted be adopted and passed.

Mr Layton seconded; and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman said:—I now beg to propose that Messrs Coxon and Mackewen be re-elected auditors for the Company.

Mr Foster seconded.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, that concludes the formal business of the meeting.

Mr Jackson said:—I beg to propose a vote of thanks to the General Agents, Consulting Committee and General Agents, I beg to thank Mr Jackson for his vote.

The meeting then dispersed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DYNAMITE.

To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, Oct. 31.

Sir.—You have been good enough to draw attention to the way in which the Chinese are in the habit of using dynamite for fishing purposes, especially from the foreshore at East Point. I beg to inform you that the practice is continued in this latter locality worse than ever. With true Chinese cunning, the fishermen, or poachers rather, do their best to make their explosion coincide with the discharge of the gun at noon, so as to humbug the police. The usual result of their operations is a very large basket full of fish, and the shaking of the houses near as though an earthquake had occurred.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
EAST POINT.

THE TRAGEDY IN GAGE STREET.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before Sir G. Phillips, Chief Justice.)

Wednesday, Oct. 31.

SAINZ v. KWOK YING KAI AND OTHERS.

Mr A. G. Wise, instructed by Messrs Brewster, Wootton and Deacon, appeared for the plaintiff. Defendants did not put in an appearance.

The suit was brought to obtain an ordinary decree of foreclosure. The plaintiff's petition was read by Mr Wise, and among other things set out that he was a priest in the 21st inst., when a report came to the station that there had been shooting going on in Gage Street. He went to see what had happened, and on entering house No. 6 Gage Street, he there saw deceased lying on the floor of a room on the first storey. The deceased woman was a daughter of the deceased, and was a compadre, all being executors of the estate of the deceased. She was found a revolver lying on a sofa, a bullet having entered the head. Three chamber of the revolver were hot, and the charges seemed to have been quite recently discharged. Witness came to the station and reported the matter, bringing with him the revolver. The woman was unconscious, when he was in the house; blood was issuing from her neck. He could not say whether the two women who were in the house at the time were dead or not.

Dr. C. J. Wharry, Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital, was next called. He said:—The body of the deceased man Drewes was brought to the hospital at half past four on the morning of the 24th inst.

I opened the head, and found a bullet had passed through the brain. It had entered the head by the roof of the mouth; it did not come out it remained in the skull. A death must have been instantaneous. The deceased woman lay on the floor of the house at the time she was found. She died next morning shortly after 6 o'clock. I did not dissect her. The bullet entered the right side of the neck and lodged under the skin on the opposite side. She was conscious the whole time she was in hospital. She gave no account of what had happened. I did not ask her to give any statement. She died very suddenly.

Chau Alum, late servant to Drewes, was called, said:—Deceased always kept his revolver on the wall; it was always kept loaded. I saw it from time to time, and on the morning of the 24th it was loaded. I saw it was loaded, as I lifted it down for him. It was then loaded in all its chambers.

Kittry Waters, recalled, said in answer to a question put by the Coroner:—There were no other persons in the house than those I have mentioned when deceased was there. Deceased was the only person present who did not live in the house. I can give no reason yet for the act. He never struck me as being mad; he always talked reasonably and never behaved in a queer manner. I have never seen him the worse for liquor. Sarah Clarke was then recalled.

The Coroner said:—How long had you known the deceased man off and on before he died?

Witness:—Since September 1877, and I saw him pretty frequently from that time.

Did he ever strike you as being a man out of his mind?—No.

He was always able to talk quite sensibly and so on?—Yes.

He drank a good deal, did he not?—I don't know.

Was he sober on that night?—Yes.

You did not notice anything strange in his conduct that night?—No, quite the reverse.

There were no other visitors in the house that night?—He was the only person in the house besides ourselves while he was there.

Was there anybody else in the house that night at all?—There was some other persons in the house that night before he was in the house but he did not see them. Miss Waters and I went into dinner at half-past eleven. Miss Berger came into dinner at 12, just as the table had been prepared, and Drewes came in a few moments afterwards.

There had been visitors previous to the time he came that night?—Oh, yes.

But during the whole time he was in the house there were no other visitors?—No.

He was the greater part of the early night, wasn't he?—No.

You don't think he did what he did on account of the other visitors who were in the house that night?—I mean he was not jealous of them nor did he know about them?—No. He did not know about them at all. They were gentlemen.

He did not speak to them in any way?—No.

You cannot give any reason for his doing what he did?—I know nothing at all about it. The most astonishing thing to me was that the occurrence occurred.

Witness having signed her name to the depositions, the foreman of the jury, Mr Buschmann, said:—I beg your Worship's pardon, but the jury are already unanimous agreed on their verdict, and we don't think we need go on any longer.

The Coroner said:—But the case is not finished. We have not heard all the evidence yet. I will not detain you much longer.

Dr Ayres, Colonial Surgeon, sworn, said:—I was called about 4 o'clock on the morning of the 24th inst., to attend to the deceased woman in Gage Street. I went immediately, and found her lying on the floor of her room, a bullet having entered the right side of the neck. There was no wound of exit. I probed the wound to the depth of 4 inches. I could not make any further examination then, and afterwards arranged to remove her to hospital. At the time I saw her the whole of her body below the neck was paralysed. Whether it was from the shock or fracture of the spine, I could not say. I heard after her death that her spine was fractured. She was perfectly conscious when I attended her. She made no statement, nor was she able to do so. She was not able to converse. She said, however, that she had been shot but did not know why, as she had had no quarrel. I did not know the deceased man Drewes personally.

Inspector Quincey said:—I was acquainted with the man Drewes; he was known to me as Captain Drewes, pilot to Messrs Siemens & Co.'s steamers between here and Canton. I knew him five or six years before his death, and he was still acting as pilot on the morning of his death. One of the witnesses told me the deceased was to go on board a steamer to Canton at five o'clock that morning.

What kind of a man was he?—I know he was a quiet man, but I have been told lately that he was addicted to drink and riotous; but I never saw him in that condition. He was mixed up in several assaults in connection with this woman.

He was bound over by your Worship but I don't know whether the bond had expired or not. I should say he was about 42 years of age. The woman's age is not known.

The Coroner said:—That is all the evidence gentlemen, and I now ask you to give your verdict.

The Foreman

THE CHINA REVIEW.

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY,
TENTH YEAR.

THIS Review, which was intended to meet the wants of many students of Chinese caused by the discontinuance of "Notes and Queries on China and Japan," has reached its Tenth Volume. The Review discusses those topics which are uppermost in the minds of students of the "Far East," and about which every intelligent person connected with China or Japan is desirous of acquiring trustworthy information. It includes many interesting Notes and original Papers on the Arts, Sciences, Ethnology, Folklore, Geography, History, Literature, Mythology, Natural History, Antiquities, and Social Manners and Customs, etc., etc., of China, Japan, Mongolia, Tibet, and the Far East generally. Recently a new departure has been taken, and the Review gives papers on Trade, Commerce, and Descriptive notes of Travel by well-known writers. It was thought that by extending the scope of the Review in this direction, the Magazine would be made more generally useful.

The Review department receives special attention, and inquiries are made to present a careful and concise record of Literature on China, etc., and to give critical and embodying sketches of the most recent works on such topics. Authors and Publishers are requested to forward works to "The China Review," care of China Mail Office.

The Notes and Queries are still continued and form an important means of obtaining facts and diffusing among students knowledge on obscure points.

The Correspondents' column also affords further and greater facilities for the interchange of views and discussion of various topics.

Original contributions in Chinese, Latin, or any of the Modern Languages are received. The papers are contributed by the members of the various Consular, the Imperial Customs, and Hongkong Services, and also by the Missionary bodies amongst whom a high degree of Chinese scholarship is exceedingly cultivated. Amongst the regular contributors are Drs. Chalmers, Eitel, Breitbach, Hirth and Hance, Professor Legge, and Messrs. Jaffier, Waiters, Stent, Phillips, MacIntyre, Groot, Janineau, Faber, Kopisch, Parker, Playfair, Giles, and Pitton, all well-known names, indicative of sound scholarship and thorough mastery of their subject.

The Subscription is fixed at \$6.50 per annum, postage included—payable in advance. Orders for binding volumes will be promptly attended to; Address, "Manager, China Mail Office."

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"The China Review for September-October fully maintains the high standard of excellence which characterizes that publication, and altogether forms a very interesting and readable number. Meteorologists will find an interesting and valuable contribution by Dr. Fritsch, on "The Amount of Precipitation (Rain and Snow) of Peking," showing the results of observations made at the Imperial Russian Observatory at Peking, from 1841 to 1880. "Notes on the Dutch Occupation of Formosa," by Mr. Goo Phillips, contains some interesting information, although much of it is second hand. The Notices of New Books include a most generous and appreciative review of "The Divine Classic of Nan-Hua," and the Notes and Queries are as usual very interesting."—North-China Daily News.

"A substantial and reliable Review which all students of China and the Chinese would do well to patronize."—Orientalist.

"The November-December number of the China Review contains less variety than usual, but the few articles are very interesting. The opening paper by Mr. Herbert A. Giles on "The New Testament in Chinese" treats of a question that must necessarily be of great importance in the eyes of all missionaries."—Mr. E. L. Parker's "Short Journeys in Szechuan" are continued, and a goodly instalment of these travels in the interior of China is given. Mr. F. H. Ballou contributes a paper of some length entitled "The Emperor Cheng, founder of the Chinese Empire," which will be read with genuine interest by students of Chinese history. A few short notices of New Books, a number of Notes and Queries, one of which "On Chinese Oaths in Western Borneo and Java" might appropriately have been placed under a separate heading, complete the number."—H. R. Daily Press.

Trubner's Oriental Record contains the following notice of the China Review:—The present publication, judging by the number now before us, is intended to occupy a position, as regards China and the neighbouring countries, not what similar to that which has been filled in India by the Celestial Review. The rest of the world, China, may deliver them to the Post Office un stamped, the postage being then charged to the sender's account. Each batch must consist of at least ten.

4. Boxholders may also send Patterns to the same places in the same way. Envelopes containing Patterns may be wholly closed, if the nature of the contents be first exhibited or stated to the Postmaster General, as he may consider necessary, and approved by him. Printed Circulars may be inserted in such Pattern Packets.

PARCELS.—The public is reminded that there is no such thing as Parcel Post to Europe, &c. Much trouble and disappointment are caused by persistent attempts to send small valuable trifles through the Post. Fans, Curios, Articles of Dress, Fancy Work, and similar presents are continually being refused, the sender having often paid the freight by steamer. No refund can be made on such parcels of the value of Stamps obliterated before the date of the Review, or on such of the Notes and Queries as are destined to find a place in its pages also. It is to be hoped that this opening for contributions on Chinese subjects may evoke a similar degree of literary zeal to that which was displayed during the lifetime of its predecessor in the field, and that the China Review may receive the support necessary to insure its continuance.

NOW READY.

THE COMMERCIAL LAW AFFECTING CHINESE, with special reference to PARTNERSHIP, REGISTRATION, and BANKRUPTCY LAWS IN HONGKONG.

Copies may be had at the China Mail Office, and at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.—Price, 75 cents.

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(Revised January 1st, 1882.)

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